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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/506,368	01/21/2005	Frederick Mark Manassch	19333.0001U1	1079

23859   7590   01/28/2008

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.
SUITE 1000
999 PEACHTREE STREET
ATLANTA, GA 30309-3915

EXAMINER
WANG, KENT F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/28/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *21 January 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-43* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-43* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *21 January 2005* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some *   c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 111(b), which papers have

been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The reference listed on the disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 01/21/2005, 04/06/2007

and 07/03/2007 have being considered by the examiner (see attached PTO 1449).

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to because labeled element "50" in the Baggage Claim area in

Figure 3 has been mislabeled. The labeled element "50" should be changed to "58" (see

[0033]). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply

to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement

drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of

the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an

amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled,

the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the

remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description

of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be

necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted

after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either

"Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification. The table below shows just a few of the many minor errors through the specification:

Page no	Line no	Mislabeled character	Corrected character
12	14	108 and agent 108.	108 and agent 106.
14	24	communication line 103	communication line 113
15	4	passport-checking agent 158	passport-checking agent 138
16	7, 10	Section 104	Section 102
16	18	captured video mage	captured video image
16	22	a traveler 146	a traveler 118
18	8, 9	95, 97, 99, 101	95, 97, 99, 101, 113, 133
18	22	176, 160, 162.	174, 160, 162.
24	24	to the travel 182	to the travel 206
30	27	memory device 254	memory device 252
35	26	At step 352	At step 350

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-17 and 19-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waters (US 6,396,535) in view of Houvener (US 6,757,408).

Regarding claim 1, Waters discloses an apparatus (situation awareness system) for the analysis of a captured image, the apparatus comprising:

-   an at least one first station (camera 101, Fig 1) for capturing an at least one first image along a traveler path (arrow 301 shows the direction of movement of objects, i.e. vehicle, pedestrian, other traffic, and so forth) (col. 3, lines 53-67);

-   an at least one second station (camera 102, Fig 1) for capturing an at least one second interaction along the traveler path (col. 3, lines 53-67); and

-   an analysis device (an analyzer synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for comparing the at least one second interaction (camera 102, Fig 1) with the at least one first interaction (camera 101, Fig 1) (col. 2, lines 46-58 and Figs 1-2).

Waters does not specifically teach an apparatus for the analysis of a captured interaction associated with a traveler and an agent. However Houvener does teach an apparatus (security identification system) for the analysis of a captured interaction associated with a traveler and an agent (provides high quality data capture and screening by leveraging the interaction between screening personnel, i.e. an agent and people being screened, i.e. a traveler) (col. 6, lines 5-12).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have included the security identification system as taught by Houvener into Waters' system, as the combination yields a systematic, uniform, natural, efficient and optimal data collection process and increases the likelihood of detecting a known high-risk individual, and minimizes the number of false positive identifications, thus the system provides a safeguard that ensures that each passenger boarded a plane, that their luggage is on the plane, and that the luggage is later claimed by the correct person (col. 6, lines 13-24, Houvener).

Regarding claim 2, Waters discloses a control station (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for storing the at least one first and second interactions captured (col. 2, lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 3, Waters discloses an alarm identifier device (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for identifying an alarm situation (certain dangerous situation or event are recognized) based on the comparing of the at least one second interaction with the at least one first interaction (multiple attributed objects are analyzed to detect events) (col. 2, line 46 to col. 3, line 2).

Regarding claim 4, Waters discloses an alarm-generating device (an output device 150, i.e. a bell, Fig 1) for generating an alarm (alerts 252, Fig 2) associated with an alarm situation (certain dangerous situation or event are recognized) identified by the alarm identifier device (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) (col. 2, line 46 to col. 3, line 2).

Regarding claim 5, Waters discloses a station poll data device (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for polling stations (video streams 115, Figs 1-2) for the at least one first and second interactions (multiple video cameras 101-106, Fig 1) (col. 2, line 46 to col. 3, line 12).

Regarding claim 6, Waters discloses a station transfer data device (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for managing data (extracting temporal and spatial data from the video streams to identify objects and their attributes) transferred from stations for the at least one first and second interactions (multiple video cameras 101-106, Fig 1) (col. 2, lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 7, Waters discloses a database (partially attributed data objects 231, Fig 2) for storing and retrieving the at least one first and second interactions (col. 3, lines 18-42).

Regarding claim 8, Waters discloses a replay device (output device 120, Fig 1) for replaying at the least one first or second interactions (e.g. generating a synthetic display of multiple video cameras 101-106) (col. 2, lines 35-58).

Regarding claim 9, Waters discloses an object tracking device (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for tracking an object within the at least one first or second interactions (various kinds of template matching schemes can be used to fully identify specific commonly occurring objects, such as, traveler and the like) (col. 3, lines 32-42).

Regarding claim 10, Waters discloses at least one first and second stations (camera 101 and 102, Fig 1) comprise at least one video capturing device (video cameras 101-106, Fig 2), an at least one audio recording device (synthesizer 250, Fig 2), an at least one data capture device (data analyzer 240, Fig 2), an at least one storage device (secondary data 238, Fig 2) and an at least one data retrieval device (data render 260, Fig 2).

Regarding claim 11, Waters discloses at least one first station and second station are located in the same transportation port (e.g. multiple cameras can be arranged to obtain a full field of view of an area of interest) (col. 2, lines 21-28).

Regarding claim 12, Waters discloses at least one first station and second station are located in remote transportation ports (e.g. a camera can transmit the data element from/to a remote location) (col. 4, lines 17-26).

Regarding claim 13, Waters discloses a second control room for recording and storing the at least one first and second interactions (e.g. image data of camera can transmit the data element from/to a remote control location) (col. 4, lines 17-26).

Regarding claim 14, Waters discloses a local or remote operator for observing the operation of the apparatus (the apparatus can be under user control and the user can supply control signal to the system) (col. 4, lines 17-26).

Regarding claim 15, Waters discloses the control station comprises a recording and retrieval system (information extracting from digital video data 201, data generating by analyzer 240, and data converting by synthesizer 250) (col. 3, lines 4-51).

Regarding claim 16, Waters discloses the capturing is performed in real time to be analyzed upon capture (operating in real-time) (col. 2 lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 17, Waters discloses the transportation port is an airport (col. 4 lines 27-30).

Regarding claim 19, Waters discloses at least one and second interactions comprise a captured data, video and audio (video cameras 101-106, Fig 2, audio synthesizer 250, Fig 2, and data analyzer 240, Fig 2) depicting the interaction between the agent and the traveler (an event 242 generated by analyzing the relationships among the attributed objects, e.g. between a agent and a traveler) (col. 3, lines 4-51).

Regarding claim 20, the limitations of claim 1 are taught above, Houvener discloses a

quality assurance device (an interactive multi-media training module of the identity

verification system) for analyzing the at least one first or second interaction for analyzing the

quality of service provided to the traveler by the agent (provides high quality data capture

and screening by leveraging the interaction between screening personnel, i.e. an agent and

people being screened, i.e. a traveler) (col. 6, lines 5-12 and col. 8, line 36 to col. 9, line 6).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have included the

interactive multi-media training module as taught by Houvener into Waters' system, as the

combination permitting a large organization to assure that their field personnel are providing

high quality customer service in a method that is considerably more efficient and effective

than sending them to the field foe auditing and training purpose (col. 8, line 36 to col. 9, line

6, Houvener).

Regarding claim 21, the limitations of claims 1 and 20 are taught above, Houvener

discloses the quality assurance device (an interactive multi-media training module of the

identity verification system) alerts a supervisor where the quality of service provided by an

agent fails to meet a predetermined standard (immediately react to issue noted) (col. 6, lines

5-12 and col. 8, line 36 to col. 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 22, the limitations of claims 1 and 20 are taught above, Houvener

discloses the quality assurance device (an interactive multi-media training module of the

identity verification system) initiates a training session with an agent (the field personnel are

prompted to participate in a training session at the next convenient time such as at the start of

their next shift) (col. 8, line 36 to col. 9, line 6).

Regarding claim 23, this claim differs from claim 1 only in that the claim 1 is an apparatus claim whereas claim 23 is a method. Thus the method claim 23 is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respected to claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 24, this claim recites same limitations as claim 13. Thus it is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 13 above.

Regarding claims 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32, these claims recite same limitations as claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10, respectively. Thus they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10 above.

Regarding claim 33, this claim recites same limitations as claim 20. Thus it is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 20 above.

Regarding claims 34, 35, 36 and 37, these claims recite same limitations as claims 11, 12, 13, and 15, respectively. Thus they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claims 11, 12, 13, and 15 above.

Regarding claim 38, Waters discloses at least one and second interactions comprise a captured data, video and audio (video cameras 101-106, Fig 2, audio synthesizer 250, Fig 2, and data analyzer 240, Fig 2) depicting the interaction between the agent and the traveler (an event 242 generated by analyzing the relationships among the attributed objects, e.g. between a agent and a traveler) (col. 3, lines 4-51).

Regarding claim 39, Waters discloses an alarm identifier device (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) for identifying an alarm situation (certain dangerous situation or event are recognized) based on the comparing of the at least one second interaction with the at least

one first interaction (multiple attributed objects are analyzed to detect events) (col. 2, line 46 to col. 3, line 2).

Regarding claim 40, Waters discloses a local or remote operator for observing the operation of the apparatus (the apparatus can be under user control and the user can supply control signal to the system) (col. 4, lines 17-26).

Regarding claim 41, this claim recites same limitations as claim 21. Thus it is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 21above.

Regarding claim 42, this claim recites same limitations as claim 6. Thus it is analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to claim 6 above.

Regarding claim 43, Waters discloses a method for traveler interactions management (an event 242 generated by analyzing the relationships among the attributed objects, e.g. between a agent and a traveler) capturing information at predetermined locations along a traveler path (multiple video cameras 101-106 along the direction of movement of objects, Figs 1, 3); recording the captured information (information extracting from digital video data 201 and data generating by analyzer 240); storing the recorded information on a storage device (data segment 230 and secondary data 238, Fig 2), and analyzing the recorded information (analyzing synthesizer 200, Fig 1) (col. 2, lines 21-58, col. 3, lines 4-47, and lines 63-67, and col. 4, lines 1-30).

7. Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waters in view of Houvener, and further in view of Brunetti (US 6,507,278).

Regarding claim 18, the limitations of claim 1 are taught above, Brunetti discloses the interaction is associated with a baggage item (a passenger and luggage pass the screening) (col. 5 line 49 to col. 6, line 8, Brunetti).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have included the interaction of association with a baggage item as taught by Brunetti into Houvener and Waters' system, as the combination yields a systematic process to increase the likelihood of detecting a known high-risk baggage, and minimizes the number of false positive identifications, thus provides a safeguard that ensures that luggage of each traveler is on the plane, and that the luggage is later claimed by the correct person.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Kinoshita et al. (US 2002/0193973) disclose a passenger moving space guide system for guiding a large number of passengers who gather in a facility in a certain time and for providing various kinds of necessary information for the passengers.

- Yagesh et al. (US 2003/0171939) disclose a system and method for monitoring and regulating the transportation of hazardous material.

- Schoen et al. (US 7,231,355) disclose a system and method track both passenger and baggage during passenger trips, improving trip security, reducing lost
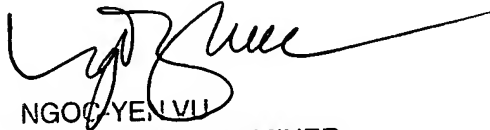
baggage, allowing remote baggage check-in and retrieval, and allowing billing

and financial transactions among system users.

Inquiries

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Kent Wang whose telephone number is 571-270-1703. The examiner

can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. - 5:30 PM (every other Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Ngoc Yen Vu can be reached on 571-272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization

where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-270-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published

applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information

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(EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer

Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN

USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

KW/
14 January 2008

NGOC YEN VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER